## 217415US-0PCT IN

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

GUY SERRE ET AL.

SERIAL NO: NEW U.S. PCT APPLN.

: ATTN: APPLICATION BRANCH

(Based on PCT/FR00/01857)

FILED: HEREWITH

FOR: FIBRIN CITRULLINE DERIVATIVES

AND THEIR USE FOR DIAGNOSING

OR TREATING RHEUMATOID

**ARTHRITIS** 

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

## IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as shown on the marked-up following this amendment to read as follows.

- 3. (Amended) The citrullinated polypeptide as claimed in claim 1, wherein said vertebrate fibrin is a mammalian fibrin, preferably a human fibrin.
- 4. (Amended) The use of a polypeptide as claimed in claim 1, for diagnosing rheumatoid arthritis, *in vitro*.

TOTAL CENDENCE